

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy in a communication network, comprising:

configuring a proxy processing strategy in a signaling proxy, wherein the proxy processing strategy includes information about a message that needs to be proxy processed; and

performing proxy processing on a received message and forwarding the proxy processed message after the signaling proxy determining that the received message needs to be proxy processed by the signaling proxy according to the configured strategy.

2. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 1, wherein said strategy comprises:

identifying a received message which needs to be proxy processed by the signaling proxy by one or a combination of any of VPN ID, VLAN ID, MPLS ID, IP protocol type, source IP address, source port, destination IP address, destination port of the received message.

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the method further comprises:

in the signaling proxy, setting destination address of a message to be proxy processed by the signaling proxy to be a local address.

4. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 2, further comprising: when receiving a message from a proxied side, the signaling proxy determines that the received message needs to be proxy processed according to information of its destination address;

replacing destination address of the received message with a server address and source

address with a server side address of the signaling proxy respectively, and forwarding the message.

5. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 4, wherein after receiving a message sent from the server, the signaling proxy replaces source address of the message sent from the server with destination address of said original message sent from ~~the signaling proxy~~the proxied side and destination address of the message sent from the server with a proxied side address respectively, and forwards the message.

6. (Previously presented) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 1, wherein said signaling proxy processing comprises:

changing source and destination IP addresses and port numbers of the received message, replacing data of the application layer, updating a signaling state and/or creating session table items.

7. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 1, wherein before the signaling proxy receives a message,

a forwarding strategy is configured in a network device through which a message sent by a proxied side passes, the forwarding strategy stipulating that a forwarding path of the message to be proxy processed passes through the corresponding signaling proxy.

8. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 7, wherein when the network device receives a message which is sent from the proxied side and needs to be proxy processed, it forwards the received message to the signaling proxy according to the forwarding strategy.

9. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 7, wherein in the signaling proxy, information of the forwarding path of [[the]] a message returned from the server is obtained in a configuration or study way and recorded; and

after the signaling proxy receives the message returned from the server, it forwards the message according to the recorded information of the forwarding path.

10. (Original) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 7, wherein said network device is configured to be a default gateway of the signaling proxy, and when the signaling proxy receives the message returned by the server, it processes said message and sends the processed message to the default gateway.

11. (Currently amended) An apparatus for implementing signaling proxy, comprising:
a unit for receiving and recognizing messages, which is configured with a proxy processing strategy, used to recognize a received message which needs to be processed, wherein the proxy processing strategy includes information about a message that needs to be proxy processed;
a unit for processing messages, which proxy processes said message that needs to be proxy processed; and
a unit for forwarding messages, which forwards the proxy processed message to a corresponding server.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said proxy processing strategy comprises:

identifying a received message which needs to be proxy processed by the signaling proxy by one or any combination of VPN ID, VLAN ID, MPLS ID, IP protocol type, source IP address, source port, destination IP address, destination port of the received message.

13. (Original) An apparatus for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 11, wherein the signaling proxy processing comprises:

changing source and destination IP addresses and port numbers of the received message, replacing the data of the application layer, updating a signaling state and/or creating session table items.

14. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein after the signaling proxy receives [[the]] a message sent from the server, it replaces source address of the message with destination address of said original message sent from [[the]] a proxied side and destination address of the message sent from the server with [[the]] a proxied side address respectively, and forwards the message according to the replaced addresses.

15. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 3, further comprising: when receiving a message from a proxied side, the signaling proxy determines that the received message needs to be proxy processed according to information of its destination address;

replacing destination address of the received message with a server address and source address with a server side address of the signaling proxy respectively, and forwarding the message.

16. (Currently Amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 2, wherein said signaling proxy processing comprises:

changing source and destination IP addresses and port numbers of the received message, replacing data of the application layer, updating a signaling state and/or creating session table items.

17. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 2, wherein before the signaling proxy receives a message,

a forwarding strategy is configured in a network device through which a message sent by a proxied side passes, the forwarding strategy stipulating that a forwarding path of the message to be proxy processed passes through the corresponding signaling proxy.

18. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 17, wherein when the network device receives a message which is sent from the proxied side and needs to be proxy processed, it forwards the received message to the signaling proxy according to the forwarding strategy.

19. (Currently amended) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 17, wherein in the signaling proxy, information of the forwarding path of [[the]] a message returned from the server is obtained in a configuration or study way and recorded; and

after the signaling proxy receives the message returned from the server, it forwards the message according to the recorded information of the forwarding path.

20. (Previously presented) A method for implementing signaling proxy according to claim 17, wherein said network device is configured to be a default gateway of the signaling proxy, and when the signaling proxy receives the message returned by the server, it processes said message and sends the processed message to the default gateway.